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COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

ANNUAL
REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

OF

T. S. P. PARKINSON, M.B.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH;

WM. BEAN, C.R.S.I.

SANITARY INSPECTOR;

AND

L. HENDERSON,

HEALTH VISITOR.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE:

CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING SOCIETY LIMITED, RUTHERFORD STREET;

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1926.

Longbenton Urban District Council.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH,

DR. T. S. P. PARKINSON, M.B.,

for the year 1925.



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Longbenton Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

Dr. T. S. P. PARKINSON.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1925.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ending, December 31st, 1925.

AREA.—The area of the district is 5,349 acres, almost level in surface.

POPULATION.—The census of 1921 was 13,759, and the estimated population for 1925 is 14,673.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC.—Part of the area consists of a residential suburb, but the bulk of the population are coal miners.

BIRTHS.—Total number registered in 1925 was 276; in 1924 the number was 278. The birth rate is 19·7 per thousand. The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales is 18·3.

DEATHS registered numbered 154; a death rate of 12·5 per thousand, as against a death rate of 12·2 per thousand for England and Wales.

Previous death rates are as follows:—

1920	...	...	...	...	10·4
1921	...	...	...	...	10·9
1922	...	...	...	...	11·1
1923	...	...	...	...	9·9
1924	...	...	...	...	9·2

The death rate being larger than it has been for the last five years is due to the increase in deaths from Pneumonia—of which 11 cases were between 45 and 65 years of age, and Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 10 of which were upwards of 65 years of age.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of deaths registered under one year is 15, as against 19 for 1924. This is an Infantile Mortality of 54·03, the rate for 1924 being 68·3. The Infantile Mortality of England and Wales is 75 for 1925.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	5
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	0
Small Pox	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	0
				10

a death rate of '71 per thousand of estimated population per annum.

PHTHISIS DEATH RATE.—Nine deaths occurred during 1925; ten in 1924; eight in 1923; a death rate of '61 per thousand per annum of population.

TUBERCULOSIS (other forms).—One death occurred as against three in 1924, and seven in 1923.

RESPIRATORY DEATH RATE.—Deaths from Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other forms were 23, in 1924 there were 24; the death rate being 1'6.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—Particulars of these will be found in Tables A. and II. The total number is 215 as against 202 in 1924; a large increase in Chicken Pox and a decrease in Scarlet Fever.

The amount of Poor Law relief during the year has been somewhat on the increase on account of the lack of work in this area.

SICKNESS AND INVALIDITY.—Measles, Chicken Pox and Pneumonia have also increased.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:—

Tuberculosis:—Wooley Sanatorium.

Maternity:—Nil.

Children:—Nil.

Fever:—Scaffold Hill Hospital.

Small Pox:—Earsdon Grange Hospital.

CLINICS.—Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Forest Hall.

Reviewing the vital statistics for the year I consider the Report is very satisfactory. Small Pox has occurred, but only four cases and these have all been mild. Pneumonia has certainly increased, but due to measles, of which there have been a larger number of cases. Other particulars you will obtain from the Sanitary Inspector and the Health Visitor.

I am, Gentlemen,

Faithfully yours,

T. S. P. PARKINSON.

TABLE A.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1925, SHEWING NUMBERS AND MONTHS IN WHICH NOTIFIED.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTALS.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Chicken Pox	..	2	2	1	..	1	..	4	12	40	26	3	91
Scarlet Fever.....	3	2	2	2	4	6	1	4	3	3	1	5	36
Pneumonia	6	2	3	4	1	2	2	..	1	3	12	15	51
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	4	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	4	2	15
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Small Pox	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Erysipelas	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	6
Diphtheria	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	4
TOTALS	16	12	8	11	6	14	4	8	17	48	45	26	215

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 years and over.	TOTAL removed to Hospital.
Small Pox	4	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	4
Chicken Pox	91	3	38	49	1	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	36	..	5	26	5	..	..	..	32
Pneumonia	51	5	23	14	1	4	3	1	..
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	15	..	1	..	4	10	..	..	..
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	6	..	1	3	2	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	6	..	..	1	..	2	2	1	..
Diphtheria	4	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	3
TOTALS	215	9	69	97	15	16	7	2	35

TABLE III.
DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1925.
Classified by age and cause.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	Total resident or non-resident in institutions in district.
All Causes—Certified . . .	153	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Non-Certified	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis	9	..	..	..	1	1	6	1	..	..
Tuberculosis (other forms). . .	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accident	7	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	2	..
Arterio Sclerosis	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Premature Birth	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Heart (Organic)	17	..	..	..	..	..	3	11	3	..
Pneumonia	18	4	2	1	2	1	2	4	2	..
Diabetes	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Diphtheria	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	4	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Parturition	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Convulsions	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis	7	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	..
Congenital Debility	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Malignant Disease	15	..	..	..	..	..	2	8	5	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Causes	17	2	1	2	..	1	5	5	1	..
Senility	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	..
Cerebral Hemorrhage . . .	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	16	..
Suicide	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
TOTALS	154	15	5	6	9	4	23	36	56	..

TABLE IV.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1925 Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1 - 2 weeks.	2 - 3 weeks.	3 - 4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes.....	4	..	..	..	4	2	4	2	3	15
Premature Birth	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	4
Convulsions	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Bronchitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Congenital Debility.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Malnutrition.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spina Bifida	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	8	..	..	..	7	4	8	4	6	30

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality, 1925.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
5	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
10	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..
15	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
20	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..
25	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	2	..	..	..	4	1	..	..
45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
65 and upds.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS ...	11	4	4	2	6	3	..	1

No non-notified tuberculosis deaths have occurred.

Notification of Tuberculosis in this area is very efficient. No cases of neglect nor refusal to notify have come under notice.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR,

WM. BEAN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LONGBENTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report, this being the Report as required by the Ministry of Health by their Circular 269, dated the 28th December, 1921.

SCAVENGING OF HOUSE REFUSE.—Throughout the whole area, this work was well attended to. The following tables give the quantity, weight and cost of removal and disposal:—

Quantity removed, 17,200 loads, or 21,500 cubic yards, or 15,480 tons. Average weight per house, 5 tons; average quantity per house, 7 cubic yards.

Total cost of removal, £2,002, this being £150 less than last year. The cost of collection and transport amounts to 2s. 7d. per ton, approximately.

	s.	d.
Cost per house	12	9 ³ / ₄
Cost per head of population ...	2	8 ³ / ₄
Cost on rates 8 ¹ / ₄ d. in the £		

Included in the above statistics are Team Labour, and Manual Labour, in connection with the collection of dust bins, casting out of ashpits and annual rental and rates for refuse depots. The whole of the work was carried out by direct labour, consisting of horses, carts and men. It is satisfactory to note that although an additional 106 houses are being scavenged, there has been a decrease of £150 in expenditure corresponding with last year. As the distance of transport to the depots does

not exceed an average of half a mile in 90 per cent. of the work, it would not pay financially or otherwise to adopt motor vehicles. About 60 per cent. of the refuse was conveyed to refuse depots in the district, the remainder being tipped upon the land and ploughed in by the farmers.

REFUSE DEPOTS.—There are four tips in the district as follows:—Burradon (adjoining the colliery heap), this belongs to the Council; Prospect Hill Quarry, which is rented at an annual rental of £15 (The Earsdon U.D. Council pay £7 10s. to us for the use of same for six months of the year); Brick Works at Palmersville, at an annual rental of £4; and Billy Pit, for the nominal rental of 5s. per year.

The dry refuse collected from Forest Hall and Benton, where the water carriage system is in vogue, is tipped at Billy Pit.

It is interesting to compare the quantity and costs in connection with the different parts of the area. This varies in a marked degree according to the occupation of the residents. Where the population are chiefly of the mining class and so-called “free coal” is in vogue the collection is large. Even among this class the amounts vary as the class of coals supplied differs in quality. The following table sets out the different areas:—

AREA.	Number of Houses selected.	Tons per house per annum.	Cost per house per annum.	Cost per ton.	Coal Supply.	Chief Occupation of Residents.
Burradon.....	429	7.9	19/5	2/5½	Burradon Coal Co.	Mining
Westmoor	187	9	26/9	2/11½	Do.	Do.
West Allotment	185	6.13	18/-	2/11½	Backworth Coal Co.	Do.
Forest Hall	204	4.8	12/3	2/6½	Seaton Burn Coal Co.	Do.
Between Benton Stn. and Church Yard.	153	1.47	8/-	5/5½	Chiefly Best Coal.	Residential.
Grove and Tynedale Terrace.	124	1.81	9/11¼	5/5½	Do.	Do.
Whole area	3124	5	12/9¾	2/7	Mixed	Mixed

Free coal is supplied in the first four areas to the miners by their employers as part payment for wages. The quantity supplied to Burradon and Westmoor are 16 tons, and West Allotment and Forest Hall 17¼ tons per annum.

It is interesting to note that the quantity of refuse removed per house varies considerably in these areas. This is entirely

due to the quality of free coal supplied by the different Colliery Companies and the kind of kitchen grate which obtains. In the colliery houses the fires are burning day and night, and it is very general that the fires are only allowed to die out to enable repairs to be carried out. Although at Burradon and Westmoor the supply is 1½ tons less than the other two areas, the refuse collected is larger.

In the first four areas the conservancy system obtains and each house has an ash closet where the excreta is well mixed with ashes, somewhat on the earth-closet principle. Some parts of these areas are cleansed twice a week and the remainder once a week.

The last two areas have the water-carriage system and the house refuse is stored in galvanised iron receptacles, which are cleansed weekly. It will be observed that the price per ton collected is approximately double when compared with the other four instances. This is owing to the additional manual labour required to collect the refuse.

NUISANCES.—Many nuisances were brought to notice, which did not appear in the Monthly Reports. These were abated without having to resort to the services of Statutory Notices. The following is a summary of the most important nuisances abated during the year, and does not include works carried out under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909:—

Premises where defective drains were repaired or relaid	15
Premises where choked drains were cleared ...	18
Premises where R. W. Gutters and down pipes were repaired	35
Premises where Privies were abolished and W.C.'s provided	7
Premises where Ash receptacles were insanitary	35
Premises where repairs were carried out to Ash- closets	38
Premises where structural defects and dampness existed	31
Premises where overcrowding was abated.....	4
Miscellaneous	46
Total	~~249~~ 229

TABLE I.

POPULATION : 14,673.											Legal Proceedings.
	Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-laws.	Number outstanding from previous year.	Total.	Number remedied after interview.	Number of INFORMAL Notices served.	Defects reme- died thereafter.	Number of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	In progress or being dealt with.	
HOUSING—											
Structural Defects	38	17	1	18	4	9	7	5	5	2	..
Dampness	36	14	1	15	11	3	3	1	1	..	..
Unfit for Habitation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Defective Spouting	63	28	15	43	13	28	21	1	1	7	1
Overcrowding	12	6	1	7	3	4	1	..	..	3	..
Nuisances	28	13	4	17	4	11	8	..	..	5	..
WATER SUPPLY—											
Insufficient	10	3	..	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	..
Unsatisfactory	16	4	..	4	..	4	..	4	..	4	..
DRAINAGE—											
Foul	41	15	3	18	2	14	14	2	2	..	..
Untrapped or Defective	31	8	2	10	3	5	5	1	1	1	..
Insufficient	15	6	..	6	2	3	3	1	1	..	..
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—											
Structural Defects	64	14	2	16	2	14	14	..	..	..	..
Insufficient	31	14	1	15	2	7	3	6	6	4	..
Foul	2	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	61	21	..	21	2	19	17	..	..	2	..
Slaughter Houses	37	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Tents, Vans, &c.	8	3	1	4	2	2	1	..	..	1	..
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Workshops and Workplaces	47	3	..	3	1	2	2	..	..	..	..
Keeping of Animals	8	2	1	3	..	2	2	..	..	1	..
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	75	36	..	36	2	34	33	..	..	1	..
Ashpits improperly used	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Offensive accumulations	8	4	..	4	1	3	3	..	..	..	..
Smoke Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Petrol Stores	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	631	213	32	245	56	166	139	21	17	32	1

TABLE II.
SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

	After Letter or Interview.	After Informal Notice.	After Statutory Notice.	TOTAL.
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—				
Privies abolished	2	..	2	4
.. repaired	..	..	..	..
Privy ashpits abolished	3	3	2	8
.. roofed or repaired	..	47	6	53
Pail-closets abolished	..	..	..	..
Water closets provided	3	3	1	7
.. .. repaired	..	2	..	2
Sanitary bins provided	..	2	..	2
.. .. renewed	..	..	..	..
DRAINAGE—				
New drains constructed	..	..	..	..
Drains repaired or recon- structed	4	5	..	9
Additional gullies provided ..	2	3	..	5
Old gullies replaced	..	..	..	..
Scullery sinks provided	..	..	4	4
Scullery waste-pipes repaired ..	..	1	1	2
Scullery waste-pipes trapped ..	..	..	..	..
Yards repaired or recon- structed	..	2	4	6

WATER SUPPLY.

Sources closed or discontinued.... Nil.	No. of houses affected Nil.
New service provided.... Only to new houses.	No. of houses affected 107

RIVERS POLLUTION.

Cases detected	Nil.
Remedied	
S.D. Works provided	

TABLE III.
UN SOUND FOOD.

		Sur- rendered.	Seized.	Legal Proceed- ings.
Beef (Home-killed).....	Stones	50	..	..
„ (Imported)	„	..	..	..
Mutton (Home-killed)	„	..	..	..
„ (Imported).....	„	..	..	..
Pork	„	..	..	..
Game	Lbs.	..	..	..
Poultry.....	„	..	..	..
Fish	„	..	..	..
Fruit	„	..	..	..
Canned Goods.....	Tins or Cases	..	..	..
Bacon	Lbs.	..	..	..
Cheese	„	..	..	..
Butter	„	..	..	..
Lard	„	..	..	..

REMARKS : (with result of any consequent legal proceedings)
Nil.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Carried out by County Council.

TABLE IV.
HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910.

Number of dwelling houses inspected	15
Number considered “ unfit for habitation ”	4
Complaints as to “ unfitness ” by—	
(a) Householders	6
(b) Parish Councils	..
Closing Orders—	
No. of “ Representations to L.A.”	..
No. of Orders made	4
No. determined after repair	..
No. of houses made fit for habitation—	
(a) After “ Informal Notice ”	..
(b) After Notice under Section 28	..
(c) After Closing Order made	..
(d) By L.A. in default of owner	..
No. of houses closed voluntarily—	
(a) After notice under Section 28	5
(b) Without “ Notice ”	..
No. of houses demolished—	
(a) Under “ Demolition Orders ”	..
(b) Voluntarily by owners	1

General character of defects—Damp walls, floors, defective roofs, insufficient light and ventilation, insanitary conveniences, defective drains and structurally unsafe.

HOUSING ACT, 1890.

(a) No. of "Representations" as to Obstructed Buildings....	
(b) No. of such buildings demolished	Nil.
(c) Representations as to Unhealthy areas.....	

HOUSING AND OVERCROWDING.—Overcrowding has slightly decreased during the year, this being chiefly due to the Council providing 40 houses at Forest Hall. The Council have full knowledge of the existing state of the district in this respect. They are at present erecting at Forest Hall a further 56 on the same field. This will fill the field. At the time of writing this Report, 32 of the 56 are slated in and 16 have tenants in them. The 56 ought to be completed before December 31st. Until the house shortage is overcome by providing more houses, it is practically impossible to deal with cases of over-crowding in the same manner as during normal conditions. Negotiations are proceeding at the time of writing this Report for three acres of land in the Allotment Ward for the erection of a further 36 houses.

Private enterprise provided 64 houses during the year, 27 of these being subsidised.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909 (INSPECTION OF HOUSES). REGULATIONS.—During the year the following houses have been inspected under the above Regulations :—

White Hall, Little Benton	6
Haslam's Cottages	5
Killingworth West House Farm	2
Punchon's Cottages, Killingworth	2
	—
	15
	—

In every house there were defects such as :—defective water supply, damp walls, broken down coal houses and insanitary privies, etc. The owners were supplied with a full list of the Council's requirements. Some defects have been remedied. Three of the houses have been closed. Work is proceeding at Ivy Street property at the time of writing this Report. One house in Blue Row was closed during the year. The two latter properties appeared in a previous Annual Report.

Many more houses might be inspected under these regulations but very little good (if any) can accrue until there are more building mechanics. At present there are many houses which have been inspected and practically condemned, but until new houses are provided the Council find it difficult to close these. There are other properties which require re-construction, but the owners (Colliery Company) are waiting until the coal trade improves sufficiently to enable them to proceed with the work.

With regard to all condemned properties, the owners have been requested to keep the houses as reasonably fit as it is possible, until reconstruction can be carried out. Legal proceedings were found necessary in one case to enforce certain temporary repairs in the meantime.

NEW BUILDINGS.—During the period under review, the following houses have been built and ready for occupation:—

Lartington Gardens, for Mr. Common	2
Burn Avenue, Forest Hall	4
Westcroft Road, Forest Hall	1
Forest Avenue, Forest Hall	17
Clifton Terrace, Forest Hall	1
Connaught Gardens, Forest Hall	1
Ballicol College Estate, Benton Park Road...	10
Station Road, Forest Hall	1
Benton Park Estate	1
Newton Road, South Gosforth (Wesleyan Church)	1
Briar Edge, Forest Hall	8
Great Lime Road (2 houses and 1 Wesleyan Chapel)	3
Beech Grove, Benton	11
Field House, Killingworth	1
Forest Hall Road	2
Lilburn Gardens, South Gosforth	2
Glebe Field, Forest Hall (Council Housing Scheme)	40
	106

The houses built by the Council were as follows:—

Type A2	24
Type A3	12
Type B2	4
	40

At the end of the year the following houses were in course of erection:—

The Oval, Benton	2
Great Lime Road	8
Benton Park Road	2
Leyburn Dene, Forest Hall	2
Beech Grove, Benton	5

Cambridge Avenue	4
Westcroft Road (for Wilson & Wilson)	5
Lartington Gardens, South Gosforth	2
Killingworth Village	2
Burn Avenue	6
Forest Avenue	8
West Lane	2
Glebe Avenue	3
Glebe Housing Scheme	56

107

SUBSIDY HOUSES.—During the year subsidies have been granted in respect of 32 houses.

SEWERS.—The Benton Park Estate sewer has been extended by the Council for the Benton Lodge Estate, at a cost of £260, and the total length of extension is 284 yards, and the size 9 ins.

Sewers have also been provided on the Council Scheme, Forest Hall, for 56 houses, at a cost of £183 for slop water and £159 for surface water sewers. The length of such sewers being 375 and 321 lineal yards respectively, the sizes being 9 ins., 6 ins. and 4 ins. diameter.

During the year the whole of the sewers have worked satisfactorily, there being very few stoppages. The automatic flushing tanks were used regularly and other dead ends of the sewers were flushed with the flushing cart.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are seven slaughter houses in the area.

Periodical inspection of these were made during the year, and with few exceptions the premises were found in a clean condition.

A young bullock (50 stones) was found after slaughter to have been suffering from tuberculosis. This was condemned and destroyed.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.—During the year two cowkeepers discontinued the business.

One application was received for registration as a cowkeeper and milkyman. This was granted.

One new dairy was provided at Benton Cottage Farm during the year. All cowsheds, dairies and milkshops were inspected at least twice during the year. Twenty-one contraventions were

found to exist. All the defects were remedied forthwith. The two outstanding are structural defects and are receiving attention.

There are 25 cowkeepers with 332 cows in the area, and also 9 purveyors of milk.

One cow was reported by a Veterinary Surgeon to be suffering from tuberculosis. After slaughter the carcase and offals were inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and myself. Not being satisfied that the cow had so suffered, the carcase and offals were taken to Newcastle, where the same were inspected by the Newcastle Meat Inspectors, who passed the same as fit for human consumption.

Cowkeepers registered	25	
Byres upon registered premises...	40	
Cows upon registered premises ...	332	
Clean cows	328	
Dirty cows	4	or approxi- mately 1·2 per cent. of the total.
Clean byres	36	
Dirty byres	4	or approxi- mately 10 per cent. of the total.

These figures show a decided improvement on last year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—Sanitary Conveniences were provided at one workshop during the year.

Visits were made to factories and workshops during the year and generally speaking there were few defects.

The following is a list of Factories and Workshops in this District:—

WORKSHOPS.—

Bakehouses (non-underground)	11
Dressmakers	7
Milliners	2
Needle workers (on outworkers list)	1
Workshop laundry	1
Blacksmiths	4
Tailors	2
Boot and Shoe Repairers	5
Builders, Joiners, Plumbers, etc.	11
Motor and Cycle Repairers	6
Total number	50

FACTORIES.—

Laundries	2
Brick Works	1
Chemical Factory	1
Motor Repair Shop	1
Saw Mill	1
Toolmaker	1
Total number	7

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.—The following are in force in the district:—

- (1) New Streets and Buildings.
- (2) The Drainage of Existing Buildings.
- (3) Slaughter Houses.
- (4) Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
- (5) For the Prevention of Nuisances from the keeping of animals.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.—Sections 15, 17, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30 and 33 comprised in Part II.

Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 48 comprised in Part III.

Sections 53, 54, 55, and 67 comprised in Part IV.

STREETS AND ROADS.—New street works are required at:—

Forest Hall:—Forest Avenue, Crossley Terrace, Percy Street, Young's Road, Errington Terrace, and Nicholson Terrace (back street), Station Road, and West Avenue.

Benton and Wapping Squares.

South Gosforth:—Killingworth Road and Gallalaw Terrace.

West Allotment:—West Street, Earsdon Terrace, Holywell Terrace, Ryton Terrace, Cramlington Terrace, Co-operative Terrace, Preston Terrace, and the paths in front of Eccles, Carlisle, Maude, Lamb, Buddle, Griffith and Backworth Terraces.

Camperdown:—Back streets at Station Road, Atkin Street, Garden Terrace, Reuben Terrace, Dent's Buildings,

Dowler Terrace, Pugh Terrace, Main Road, Burradon, side streets leading to Infant Schools, Ivy Terrace, Westslade Terrace, and all the Colliery Rows (back and front).

Benton:—Tynedale Terrace and Eastfield Road.

The Council decided on the 17th December, that the following streets be made up under the Private Street Works Act, 1892:—

Forest Hall:—Forest Avenue, back street between Burn Avenue and Fairfield Avenue, back Nicholson Terrace (east side), Glebe Road (from Wilson Terrace to the Glebe Farm).

Westmoor:—Albert Terrace (back), Cowper Terrace (back).

West Allotment:—West Street, back street behind the Co-operative Stores, front footpaths only in the following terraces:—Eccles, Carlisle, Buddle, Maude, Lamb, Griffith, Preston, and Backworth, back street between Preston and Co-operative Terraces, back street between Earsdon and Cramlington Terraces, East side of Cramlington Terrace (back footpath). Cement Avenues, 9 feet wide for the following front streets:—Ryton and Holywell Terraces, Earsdon Terrace, Cramlington Terrace, Co-operative Terrace. Footpath crossings on south side of Taylor Terrace; completion of the street adjoining the wagonway, including footpaths not already cemented.

With regard to the above streets, plans, specifications and estimates are now being prepared, after which the works will be advertised and let.

With regard to the Colliery streets at Burradon and Camperdown, the Council have pressed for this work to be done. The Coal Company, desiring to do the work themselves, have engaged a Surveyor who has prepared plans, etc., but owing to the financial conditions in the coal trade the Council have acceded to the owners request, viz.:—"That the street-works in connection with their property lie in abeyance until there is sufficient improvement in the Coal Trade to enable them to proceed with the works."

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—I have received 45 notifications of infectious disease during the year from the Medical Officer of Health. This number is one-third decrease on last year's total. They are as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	36
Diphtheria	1
Smallpox	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Total.....	45

32 cases of scarlet fever and three cases of diphtheria were removed to the Scaffold Hill Hospital. Rooms were disinfected after removal with Formic-Aldehyde, and the cleansing of the premises insisted upon.

All cases of smallpox were removed to the Grange Hospital, Earsdon. The premises were disinfected and the bedding disinfected with the steam disinfecter.

After two deaths from tuberculosis and one from cancer the premises were also disinfected.

Yours faithfully,

WM. BEAN, Sanitary Inspector.

SURVEY REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—With the exception of a few farms and houses which are isolated, the whole of the area is sufficiently sewered. At Burradon the outfall sewer from 80 houses discharges into the colliery runner, which was piped three years ago with 12 in. pipes. The latter discharges into the Seaton Burn at Annitsford Bridge. There is only one w.c. discharging into this sewer. The nature of the sewerage is that which generally obtains in a colliery village without water closets, and 150,000 gallons of water are pumped daily from the colliery through this piper sewer. The pollution of the burn is therefore infinitesimal. The sewers at West Allotment join the Earsdon U.D. Council main sewer, which discharges into the North Sea.

Part of the area south of Loughbenton Village has been sewered during the past two years and connected with the Wallsend Corporation sewers, which deliver into the River Tyne.

During the period under review 3,485 yards of new sewers have been laid and 290 yards of existing pipes re-laid owing to pitfalls, at a cost of £2,477 and £120 respectively. (See Annual Reports 1921 to 1925, inclusive, for details.)

The rest of the area is sewered into the Newcastle Corporation Onseburn Sewer. With regard to house drainage, see the following table, which gives in detail the work carried out during the past five years :

	New Drains.	Exten- sions.	Old Drains re-laid.	TOTALS.
Number of houses	223	11	102	336
Yards of pipe	7965	417	1374	9756
Gullies and traps	578	34	223	835
W.C.'s	281	14	45	340
Chambers provided	247	7	44	298
Water tests	764	46	216	1026
Smoke tests	492	25	180	697
Visits	1094	64	490	1648

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—There have been 22 conversions from the conservancy system in this area during the past five years. This does not show much progress in this respect, but as the greater part of the area has ash-closets where the mining population exists, a nuisance is hardly perceptible on account of the large quantity of ashes which intermix with the excreta. A glance at the table will show that there are approximately 491 privies with 276 ashpits in combination with them. This system is not satisfactory, especially where the latter are open and unprotected from surface and roof water from privies. In many cases the ashpit bottom is below the surface of adjoining ground. This causes intolerable smells in hot weather and provides breeding grounds for swarms of flies, which enter the houses and pollute food, etc. The worst type of these are at Benton and Wapping Squares and Killingworth Village, where the property is over 135 years old and nearly all of which have been reported as unfit for habitation. It is worthy of note that no plans for houses are now passed unless the watercarriage system is carried out. With regard to galvanised iron receptacles, these are quite alright where the occupier buys the coal, but in districts where the free coal is in vogue, the small separate covered-in ashpits, built with incombustible material, plastered out with cement and of such capacity as will hold only 1 week's storage, is to be preferred from an economical and sanitary aspect. The following table sets out the whole district in Wards:—

	Water Closets.	Ash Closets.	Ashpits in combination with Privies.	Privies.	Separate Ashpits.	Galvanised Iron Dust Bins.	Other Receptacles.	Privy Pails.
Allotment Ward.....	18	198	139	284	7	2	..	..
Benton.....	463	74	25	31	179	246	39	..
Burradon Ward	66	365	17	27	46	4	1	..
Forest Hall Ward ...	479	362	47	67	183	255	9	4
Killingworth Ward ..	116	311	48	82	55	53	9	2
TOTALS	1142	1310	276	491	470	560	58	6

SCAVENGING.—This Annual Report gives a general account of what has been carried out during the past five years.

SANITARY INSPECTION.—This Annual Report fairly well covers the procedure adopted during the period under review.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK.—One cowshed and dairy was closed at Westmoor owing to the premises being insanitary. One new cowshed and dairy was constructed at Benton, a Clean Milk Demonstration being held therein on the 1st April, 1925.

In the registration of Purveyors of Milk precautions are taken to prevent persons being registered where there are other articles on sale deleterious to milk. In the case of small shops only bottled milk is allowed on sale.

(1) In one case milk was suspected of having caused poisoning. Immediate action was taken in conjunction with the County Sanitary Inspector. Byres and cows were inspected and all the requisite enquiries made as to sickness among the cattle. A sample of milk was taken from one cow recently off its food and another from the general herd. These were sent for Bacteriological Examination. Information was received that the result of examination was negative.

(2) No licences for special designated milk were granted, no applications having been received.

(3) Nil.

(4) See (1).

(b) MEAT.—Meat was found to be stored in very insanitary surroundings in 1922, and potted meat was being cooked under the same conditions. Resulting from action taken this was remedied.

A young bullock and a heifer were each found after slaughter to have had tuberculosis. These were destroyed.

(1) All butchers were notified about the Meat Regulations and also that the Council had appointed me as the Inspector. All butchers killing in the area notified their killing day and should any change of time take place they notify such alterations.

(2) The shops in this area have closed windows and vehicles are covered in. There are no stalls in this district.

(3) There are no public slaughter houses in this area. There are 7 private slaughter houses in the area. All are licensed.

(c) OTHER FOODS.—Some 24 tins of preserved fruit were found to be unsound. These were seized, and taken to a Justice of the Peace, who ordered their destruction. There are no underground bakehouses in the district. Defective drains and a privy ashpit existed at one bakehouse. Action was taken successfully to have drains re-laid, privy ashpit abolished, and w.c. and dust bin provided.

(d) No cases of food poisoning in the area.

(e) SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—This is administered by the County Council.

Yours faithfully,

WM. BEAN.

16th April, 1926.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH VISITOR,

L. HENDERSON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LONGBENTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1925.

The births notified during the year were 237 in number—132 males and 105 females, and were notified by—

Doctors	89
District Nurses, Parents and others	148
Total.....	237

Three sets of twins were born during the year.

The still-births notified numbered two.

Births visited	223
Re-visits to babies (under 1 year)	1784
Children visited (between 1 and 5 years of age	1,120
Visits to expectant mothers	75

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One case was notified from Forest Hall, and was attended by the district nurse and the patient's own doctor.

MEASLES.—42 cases of measles were visited during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Visits during year, 46.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Four new cases were visited and 84 re-visits were made to old cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—The Centre was open 25 times for the weighing of babies. The average attendance was 26·8. During 1924 the average was 32·8, and in 1923 it was 23. The total number of attendances was 671; the ages of the children being from 3 days to $4\frac{3}{4}$ years.

Of the 126 names on the register, 98 were of babies under 1 year, and 28 of children between 1 and $4\frac{3}{4}$ years of age, and came from the following districts :—

Benton	10
Burradon	20
Forest Hall	52
Killingworth and Westmoor	27
West Allotment	17
Total.....	126

Every child attending the Centre was seen by the doctor and in 25 cases the mother was advised to see her own medical attendant with regard to the child's health. The Centre was removed from the Primitive Methodist Chapel to the Council Offices in October.

We commenced in November, on the alternate Wednesdays to the weighing, to give talks to the mothers, and also to teach them how to cut out and make up children's garments from either new material or cast-off clothing.

An address on Child Welfare was given to the mothers during Health Week by Miss Barber, of Sunderland, but owing to the snow storm the attendance was small.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

L. HENDERSON,

Health Visitor.

2nd June, 1926.

